

A Comparison of Primary Election Systems

Primary Type	Party Registration: Voters are required to register with a political party.	Lists: Political parties would receive a list of their party members.	Party Ballot: Voters are restricted to a single party ballot.	Voter Privacy: The voter's privacy is protected.
Non-Partisan No party affiliation or identification	N	N	N	Y
Blanket Primary Voters are able to vote for any candidate regardless of party.	N	N	N	Y
Modified Blanket Primary Voters do not register by party. Top two candidates, regardless of party, move on to the general election.	N	N	N	Y
Louisiana 'Cajun' Primary Top two candidates, regardless of party, advance to the general election.	Y	Y	N	N
Open Primary / Private Choice Voters must select the ballot of one party.	N	N	Y	Y
Open Primary / Public Choice Same as private choice, but a record is kept of the voter's choice.	N	Y	Y	N
Closed Primary Voters must register by political party and are restricted to that party's ballot at the primary.	Y	Y	Y	N
Caucus / Convention Political parties select their nominees to the general election with no primary election.	Per party rules	Y	No ballot	N